

## Managing collaborative activity: building effective learning communities

These [cards](#) and the accompanying activity outlined below, are designed to allow you to work with groups of staff within your institution to consider questions around the design and delivery of effective collaborative activity.

### The activity

The activity encourages participants to explore the characteristics of an effective learning community. You can do the activity in any small group, for example as a workshop or within a team meeting to reflect on your current practice and future aspirations.

### The equipment

- A set of cards
- Blank cards

There are 11 cards, each one represents a characteristic of an effective learning community. The cards are not designed to be definitive, you may disagree with some of the characteristics and may want to create some extra cards of your own.

Each card has a set of prompts or questions. You don't have to answer all of these, rather they are intended to help you think about what the card entails.

### What you need to do

1. Sort your cards into two piles:
  - a. What are the **essentials** of an effective learning community? What do you need to do?
  - b. What are the **'nice to haves'**? These might be longer term aspirations or characteristics of a mature learning community.